

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

-- Fig. 1 depicts an ~~one~~ embodiment of a human transporter, lacking a distinct user input device, to which the present invention may advantageously be applied;--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

-- Fig. 2 is a side view of a transporter, in accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention;--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

--Fig. 3 is an expanded side view of a transporter, in accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention;--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

--Fig. 4 is a side view of a transporter, in accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention; and --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

--Fig. 5 is a block diagram of a controller of a transporter, in accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

--In accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention, Fig. 1 shows a transporter, 1 lacking a distinct input device, to which the present invention may advantageously be applied. Transporter 1 is described in detail in U.S. patent number 6,302,230, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Transporter 1 includes a support platform 11 for supporting a load, which may be a living subject 9, over the ground or other surface, such as a floor, which may be referred to herein generally as "ground". A subject, for example, may stand or sit on support platform 11. Attached to support platform 11 may be a handlebar 12 that can be gripped when riding transporter 1.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

--Referring now to fig. 2, which shows a transporter 10 in accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention, the attitude of support platform 11 may, for example, be capable of variation based on a position of a center of mass of the load relative to one or more wheels 13, 14. Alternatively, transporter 10 may include a power strut or other mechanism capable of altering the attitude of the support platform 11. The power strut may be controlled by a user interface located on transporter 10, such as a joystick or a rotatable potentiometer located on handlebar 12. In other embodiments, the power strut may also be controlled by a remote control device 37 (shown in Fig. 5), such as, but not limited to, an infrared or radio controlled remote control device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

In another embodiment, at least one distance sensor 22 may sense the distance between a fiducial point on the transporter platform 11 and a first component 23 that remains in a substantially fixed vertical position relative to the surface 19, as shown in the expanded view of a transporter in Fig. 3. First component 23 may be, for example, a wheel axle 23 or a frame such as, without limitation, first support platform 69 in Fig. 4,

that is used to support ~~the~~ at least one wheel ~~14~~ 63 and 64. In various embodiments, first component 23 may include a reflector for reflecting the signal generated by distance sensor 22.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

--Fig. 4 shows a transporter 60 that includes a first support platform 69 and a second support platform 61, in accordance with an ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention. At least one wheel 63 and 64 provides contact between the first support platform 69 and the ground. Second support platform 61 is coupled to the first support platform 69 such that the second support platform 61 can tilt in the fore-aft plane based, for example, on a position of a center of mass of the loaded second support platform 61. Second support platform 61 may be tiltably attached to the first support platform 69 using, without limitation, springs 65 and 66 and/or a pivot mechanism 68. Similar to above-described embodiments, based on the tilting of the second support platform 61, at least one sensor 67 and 70 generates a signal indicative of the attitude of the second support platform 61. Attached to the first support platform 69 or second support platform 61 may be a handlebar 62 that can be gripped while operating the transporter 60.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

--Fig. 5 shows a controller 30 for controlling the motorized drive of the transporter, in accordance with ~~an~~ ~~one~~ embodiment of the invention. Controller 30 receives an input characteristic of platform attitude from sensor module 34. Based at least on the input from the sensor module, controller 30 commands at least one motorized drive 35, 36. Controller 30 also interfaces with a user interface 31 and a wheel rotation sensor 33. User interface 31 may include, among other things, controls for turning the controller 30 on or off. When the controller 30 is turned off, the at least one wheel of the transporter may be free to move, such that the transporter acts as a typical push scooter.

User interface 31 may also control a locking mechanism 32 for locking the at least one wheel.--